

Garcia, who lost to Curbelo, added, “Mr. Collins teaches a realistic understanding of the political process, but he provides the inspiration to make working through that difficult process an act of service for society’s most vulnerable members.”

That sentiment was not lost on Manny Diaz, chair of the Florida Democratic Party. “Mr. Collins asked us on the first day of class if we knew what our rights were if we found ourselves on a country road in Alabama and a big sheriff arrested us because we looked Hispanic. I wanted to know the answer to his question.”

Collins’ influence led Javi Correo, Uber’s public affairs senior manager, to pursue his passions.

“He instills in you that the meaning and purpose of public service is not the shining moments like running for office or photo ops, it’s about rolling up your sleeves and helping citizens get a response from their government,” Correo said.

He also credits Collins for connecting him with former U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen. “It was the middle of football season, and I needed the 10 points extra credit wiggle room in my grade that semester.” He was able to snag those extra credits by volunteering in her campaign office.

“I couldn’t tell you what political party he belongs to,” Ros-Lehtinen said of Collins, “but he belongs to the fellowship of man. We need to clone him. He’s always been a voice of reason and commonsense in my life.”

Collins is clear about what drives him: “I’m influenced by the experience of my great grandfather. He was an Irish immigrant who struggled, through perseverance and grace, he was able to succeed,” he said. “I’m a beneficiary of that generation of Irish Americans who feels it would be selfish to solely benefit from the opportunities in this country. I feel like I owe it to him and to my family that the notion of civic responsibility continues to those I have met through the Cuban immigration experience that is Belen Jesuit.”

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Read more here: <https://www.miamiherald.com/opinion/op-ed/article254479452.html#storylink=cpy>

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:53 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 848. An act to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 in order to improve the service obligation verification process for TEACH Grant recipients, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1154. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Great Dismal Swamp National Heritage Area, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1228. An act to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya.

H.R. 1693. An act to eliminate the disparity in sentencing for cocaine offenses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2617. An act to amend section 1115 of title 31, United States Code, to amend the

description of how performance goals are achieved, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4250. An act to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for rewards for the arrest or conviction of certain foreign nationals who have committed genocide or war crimes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4686. An act to promote free and fair elections, political freedoms, and human rights in Cambodia, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4981. An act to amend the Fentanyl Sanctions Act, to modify certain deadlines relating to the Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking.

At 6:24 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1301. An act to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1154. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Great Dismal Swamp National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 1228. An act to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1693. An act to eliminate the disparity in sentencing for cocaine offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2617. An act to amend section 1115 of title 31, United States Code, to amend the description of how performance goals are achieved, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4250. An act to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for rewards for the arrest or conviction of certain foreign nationals who have committed genocide or war crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4686. An act to promote free and fair elections, political freedoms, and human rights in Cambodia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2868. A bill to temporarily extend the public debt limit until December 16, 2022.

H.R. 3755. An act to protect a person’s ability to determine whether to continue or end a pregnancy, and to protect a health care provider’s ability to provide abortion services.

H.R. 5323. An act making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2244. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Data Collection for Analytics and Surveillance and Market-Based Rate Purposes” ((RIN1902-AF22) (Docket No. RM16-17-000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2245. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulation of Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals Under TSCA Section 6(h); Phenol, Isopropylated Phosphate (3:1); Compliance Date Extension” ((RIN2070-AK89) (FRL No. 6015.5-03-OCSPP)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2246. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Limited Approval and Limited Disapproval, California; Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District” (FRL No. 8609-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2247. A communication from the Acting Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; California; Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District, Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District, and Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District; Combustion Sources” (FRL No. 8777-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 14, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2248. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Iowa; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard” (FRL No. 8704-02-R7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2249. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; Missouri; Revision to Emission Data, Emission Fees and Process Information Rule” (FRL No. 8695-02-R7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2250. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Extension of the Laboratory and Analytical Use Exemption for Essential Class I Ozone-Depleting Substances” ((RIN2060-AU80) (FRL No. 7810-02-OAR)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2251. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection